

Their leadership, in cooperation with Governor Frank O'Bannon, and literally thousands of volunteers in Wells and Adams counties managed to stem the tide. Special commendation should go to Irving Material Incorporated and also to the Indiana National Guard's 2nd Battalion of the 151st Infantry. Under the leadership of General George Buskirk and Colonel Rick Shatto nearly 200 troops loaded and stacked sandbags and helped save the community of Bluffton, Indiana.

As more rain approaches, I urge the President to speed disaster relief to the counties in Indiana that the Governor has requested. I encourage the volunteers for their determination to move forward as the rain approaches and I urge prayers by all citizens to remember the cry of the Psalmist when he wrote, "God is our refuge and our strength, though the earth be removed, though its waters roar and be troubled, we will not fear."

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF
PRIVATE BRANDON ULYSSES
SLOAN

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 9, 2003

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of United States Army Private Brandon Ulysses Sloan, who bravely and selflessly answered the call to duty and made the ultimate sacrifice on behalf of our country.

Private Sloan's young life was defined by family, faith, friends and community. A gentle and kind soul, Private Sloan lived his life with great joy and energy. He easily forged lasting friendships and was quick with a smile, kind word, or helping hand. Private Sloan was also an exceptional athlete, and he developed a love for baseball and football.

Private Sloan's family and friends were central to his life. He gained personal strength and faith from those who knew him best and loved him most—his father, Reverend Tandy U. Sloan; his mother, Kimberly T. Sloan; and his sister, Brittney Sloan.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and remembrance of Private Brandon Ulysses Sloan, whose honor, commitment and bravery will be remembered always. I offer my deepest condolences to the family of Private Sloan—his beloved parents, Reverend Tandy U. and Kimberly T. Sloan; his beloved sister, Brittney Sloan; his adoring grandmothers, Dr. Rementa Pippen and Luberta Sloan; and his extended family and many friends.

The significant sacrifice, service, and bravery that characterized the life of Private Brandon Ulysses Sloan will forever be honored and remembered by the Cleveland community, and the entire nation. And within the hearts of his family and friends, the bonds of love and memories created in life by Private Sloan will never be broken, and will live on for all time.

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF
THE AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS
OF CLEVELAND CENTER IN
OBERLIN, OHIO, AND IN HONOR
AND REMEMBRANCE OF THE
FORTY-FOUR PASSENGERS AND
THE CREW MEMBERS OF UNITED
FLIGHT 93

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 9, 2003

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of the air traffic controllers of Cleveland Center in Oberlin, Ohio, whose bravery, skill, and quick thinking ensured the safety of other air passengers on one of the darkest days in American history, September 11.

Immediately following that tragic day, the men and women of the Cleveland Center have demonstrated their compassion and concern for the families of the victims of United Flight 93 by contributing over \$10,000 to the Todd M. Beamer Foundation, a foundation established to assist families of every passenger and crew member of Flight 93.

Today, I also stand in honor and remembrance of forty-four passengers and crew members aboard United Flight 93. Their valiant spirit and courageous actions prevented even greater loss of life. The people aboard United Flight 93 will remain in our minds and hearts forever, and will forever be recognized as true American heroes.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honor and tribute of the men and women of the Cleveland Center, and the men and women aboard United Flight 93—their spirited, heroic, and selfless actions—under the most terrifying of circumstances—restores our faith in humanity and reflects all that is good in America, and they will never be forgotten.

DEDICATION OF THE SIMON
RAINBOW ROOM

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 9, 2003

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share with my colleagues these remarks from my constituent, Larry Simon, on the dedication of the Simon Rainbow Room at the Gurwin Jewish Geriatric Center in Commack, New York. Larry and Sandy Simon's spirit of generosity is evident in these touching remarks.

SIMON RAINBOW ROOM DEDICATION, LARRY
SIMON REMARKS

Thank you Gerry, Concetta and Barbara for helping to make this a very special evening for us. It is particularly meaningful to Sandy and I that those for whom Gurwin was built, our residents, share tonight with our family, friends and special colleagues.

We chose to dedicate the Rainbow Room because it represents the vitality and possibilities of life. It symbolizes the very reason for our devotion to the Gurwin Center's work. Sandy and I have had the opportunity to stand at this podium and witness so many joyous events that have touched us beyond imagination. We have shared excitement and joy with our residents and their families, and

we always leave with an uplifting feeling that we and our fellow colleagues have made a difference.

So often when people confront the difficult challenges of life they ask, "why me . . . why us." For Sandy and I, grateful for our yesterday's when our hopes and dreams were new, grateful for today's joys and bounty's of life and thus given the opportunity to make a difference, the question we asked ourselves is "why not us . . . if not us who." That simply is why we have made Gurwin such a special and important part of our life. Our involvement is a tremendous source of pleasure, pride and personal satisfaction. We truly believe we receive back far more than we have given.

Let me share this poignant letter with all of you to demonstrate our point!

Dear Mr. Friedman: . . . My wife entered the Gurwin Center on March 25, 2003. At that time she was on a ventilator, incontinent and was being fed through a G-tube. She couldn't speak or walk, and I feared I was losing her.

The wonderful, professional, compassionate and caring staff of doctors, nurses, nursing assistants and therapists on 4 East changed all that. My wife is now off the ventilator, no longer incontinent, and eats solid food. She can walk and speak and seems well on the way to a complete recovery.

God bless you and the excellent staff on 4 East for giving my wife back to me. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. Respectfully and gratefully.

This letter certainly confirms our point of getting back more than we have given.

In the business world we deal with many "investment partnerships and partnership investors." Sandy and I are equally grateful for our Gurwin partners as well. We would like to thank those who work so closely with us. We greatly value the commitment and leadership of our fellow Board and Auxiliary colleagues. We respect and admire the dedicated staff who make this Center their life's work, and we thank the staff of the Gurwin Auxiliary and the Gurwin Foundation for making our volunteer experience so rewarding.

We must also acknowledge tonight's Gurwin participants who have been so kind to us, here at the podium.

Phyllis Charash, you are a woman of strength, a woman of faith, a woman of honor, and a woman of pride and charity. Thank you for emceeding tonight's celebration and dedication. You are a very special lady.

Herb Friedman, you've worked so hard and diligently to make Gurwin what it is today. You've dared to share your dreams, encourage and advise all of us and you've been here right from the very start. You are one of the most important people in our Gurwin life and we thank you for your dedication and outstanding effort year after year.

Joseph Gurwin, you continue to share your strength, vision and wisdom with us, and mentor by example the values of love, respect and commitment to family and the Gurwin community. Your friendship and counsel have been sustaining and inspiring. We offer our love and admiration. You are a very special man.

Our wish for all of you here tonight—be grateful for tomorrow and the promises it holds—wonderful times, a happier life, and a deeper affection for the human spirit and needs as each new day unfolds.

Just as our name will now be etched on the dedication plaque for this room, the special feelings of this evening will be etched in our memories forever. We applaud all of you for sharing our passion for Gurwin. Thank you!